



Connections

Henderson and Warren Counties, Illinois



Illinois Department
of Transportation

The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) is committed to keeping you informed of activities related to the proposed improvements to U.S. Route 34 from Gulfport to Monmouth. This newsletter gives you an update on project activities since the last public meeting and what to expect in the coming months. Your input into the planning process for U.S. Route 34 is very important, and IDOT encourages your comments and opinions.

More Community Input Received at November Meeting

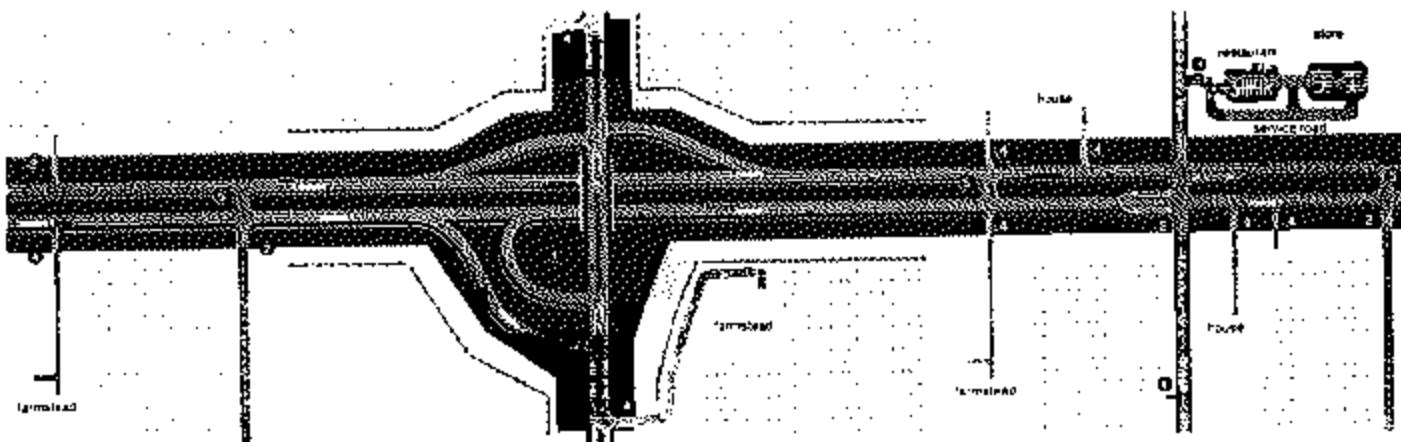
The third public meeting for the planning phase of improvements to U.S. Route 34 was held November, 1997. Over 200 people attended the open house meeting held at the Union Community School. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the alternative alignments that have been developed for improving U.S. Route 34 to a four lane rural expressway. Maps at this meeting showed which alternatives have been retained for further study, and why

some preliminary routes were dropped from further consideration.

Many questions received at this meeting concerned how people were going to get onto the new roadway, and what type of access would be provided. The illustration below shows an example of a typical rural expressway and the types of access recommended for safe travel. It is important to note that for safety reasons, it will not be possible to provide every driveway with a median opening.

Rural Expressway

A high-speed divided highway for through-traffic with access partially or fully controlled and grade separations at intersections with major roads.



Types of access

- ① **Interchanges**
at higher traffic volume roads, when traffic conditions warrant
- ② **At-grade Intersections**
at state, county and township roads or city streets.
- ③ **Business or Commercial Entrances**
access only from service drives or side roads
- ④ **Farm or Residential Entrances**
access may be direct to the expressway or to a nearby side road
- ⑤ **Median Cross-overs**
may be at local roads, streets and entrances where safety will not be compromised (not all entrances will have median cross-overs)

Alternatives on Display

Maps of the remaining alternatives under study are available for public viewing. They are located at the following locations:

Warren County Public Library

62 Side Square

Monmouth, Illinois

Open:

Monday-Thursday,

8 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday,

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Henderson County Public Library

Main Street

Biggsville, Illinois

Open:

Monday-Saturday,

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

What's Ahead?

Comments received at the November, 1997, public meeting are still being reviewed and analyzed. Within the next month, responses to the public comments will be in the mail. The alternatives shown at the November public meeting are currently undergoing in-depth engineering analysis. These alternatives are also being examined for their potential impact to the human and natural environment and how well they meet the transportation objectives of safe and efficient travel. This analysis will determine which alternative will be recommended. Future public meetings will be held in the fall to gather input from the public on the recommendations.

Project team members will be in the project corridor for the next few months verifying field data.

Questions or Comments?

Public input and involvement is an important component to this planning process. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact:



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RETURN TO SENDER

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